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February 29, 1996

VIA FACSIMILE AND MAIL
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Mr. Frank Hawkins
Director, International Health Programs (EH-63)
United States Department of Energy
19901 Germantown Rd.
Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290

Re: Enewetak and the report entitled "Human Radiation Experiments Associated with the U.S. Department of Energy and its Predecessors".

Dear Mr. Hawkins:

On page 31 of the report entitled "Human Radiation Experiments Associated with the U.S. Department of Energy and its Predecessors" mention is made that studies using chromium-51 and tritium were conducted on residents of Enewetak Atoll in 1965 and 1966 (hereinafter "studies"). A copy of the page is attached for ease of reference.

Senator Ismael John, Mayor Neptali Peter and the Enewetak/Ujelang Local Government Council are concerned about the above-mentioned studies. On behalf of Senator John, Mayor Peter and the Enewetak/Ujelang Local Government Council, please provide me with the following information relative to studies conducted on residents of Enewetak Atoll in 1965 and 1966:

1. Name of each individual who was the subject of the studies;
2. Identification of public and private entities involved in such studies;
3. Description of all data, reports, and other documents relating to such studies; and
4. Information relating to the location of all data, reports, and other documents relating to such studies.

We ask that the names of the residents of Enewetak Atoll who were the subjects of the studies in 1965 and 1966 be provided to us as soon as possible.

In addition to the above, please describe any and all studies conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy and its predecessors in which the residents of Enewetak Atoll, and/or in

which any member of the community commonly known as the "people of Enewetak", were subjects or were otherwise involved.

A prompt response to this request would be appreciated.

Very truly yours.

Davor Z. Pevec

cc: Senator Ismael John
Mayor Neptali Peter

search. Vol. 19, No. 4, August 1963, pp. 643–654.

Cohn, S.H., B. Rosoff, E.A. Gusmano, and H. Spencer. "II. Long Term Cs^{137} Turnover in Man as Measured by a Whole-Body Counter." *Radiation Research.* Vol. 19, No. 4, August 1963, pp. 655–658. ❑

BNL-35. Study of Tryptophan Conversion to O-Aminophenol Using Carbon-14

A STUDY IN 1961 by researchers at Brookhaven National Laboratory determined that tryptophan (an essential amino acid), was metabolized to o-aminophenol, a urinary product of tryptophan. This process was shown using carbon-14 (C^{14}) as a tracer.

Thirty-nine milligrams of DL-tryptophan-7a-C^{14} containing 51 microcuries of C^{14} were administered orally to one female patient with multiple myeloma. Expired carbon dioxide (CO_2) and urinary output were collected for the next 12 to 24 hours, respectively. Of the administered C^{14}, 5 percent was found to have been excreted as expired $C^{14}O_2$ in 12 hours, and 14 percent was excreted in the urine in 24 hours. The metabolite o-aminophenol-2-C^{14} was identified in the urine. The study was supported by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

References

Hankes, L., M. Schmaeler, and K. Rai. "O-aminophenol: A Urinary Product of Tryptophan Metabolism in the Human." In *Proceedings of the Society for Experimental Biology and Medicine.* Vol. 110, 1962, pp. 420–422. ❑

BNL-36. Total-Body Water and Hematologic Studies in the Pacific Islanders Using Chromium-51 and Tritium

BETWEEN 1961 AND 1966, a medical team from Brookhaven National Laboratory conducted a series of studies on persons, both natives and others, living in the Marshall Islands. These islands and some of the population were contaminated with radioactive fallout as the result of an unexpected distribution of fallout from a nuclear test on Bikini Atoll in 1954.

In 1961, five Marshallese and five Americans were administered chromium-51 (Cr^{51})–labeled red cells by intravenous injection to determine their blood volumes. In 1962, eight unexposed Rongelap Island natives and seven Americans participated in an identical procedure. Another group of 25 subjects may have undergone the same study during the period 1961 to 1962.

In 1963, 21 Marshallese islanders were administered Cr^{51} and 1 milliliter of water labeled with tritium (H^3) to determine red cell mass, blood volume, lean body mass, and total-body water. Similar body-water and lean-body-mass studies were conducted on residents of Enewetok Atoll in 1965 and 1966.

These studies showed that there was a slight tendency for the Marshallese to be anemic. It was determined that the anemia was characteristic of the Pacific island study population and not the result of exposure to fallout radiation. This work was supported by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission.

References

Conard, R., L. Meyer, W. Sutow, W. Maloney, B. Cannon, A. Hicking, R. Hammerstrom, E. Riklon, A. Lowery, A. Wathe, R. Carter, B. Bender, I. Lanwi, and J. Anjain. *Medical Survey of People of Rongelap and Utirik Islands Nine and Ten Years after Exposure to Fallout Radiation (March 1963 and March 1964).* Upton, NY: Brookhaven National Laboratory, BNL-908, pp. 39–40.

Correspondence. L. Meyer and W. Siri. Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, William E. Siri Files, Accession 434-91-0131, File Code 19-14-18, Carton 119. ❑

BNL-37. Study of Iron Metabolism in Humans with Aregenerative Anemia Using Iron-59 and Chromium-51

IN APPROXIMATELY 1962, researchers at the Medical Research Center of Brookhaven National Laboratory conducted a study to better understand the effect of anemia (low red blood-cell count) on iron metabolism in humans. This study involved four male and three female patients, ranging in age from 5 to 68 years, who had aregenerative anemia (reduced capacity to replace red blood cells), and two normal sub-